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# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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MONDAY, JUNE 22, 1992

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MONDAY, JUNE 22, 1992

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GOVERNOR-DESIGNATE WANTS TO KEEP GOVT STRUCTURE INTACT

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THE GOVERNOR-DESIGNATE, MR CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, WANTS TO KEEP THE GOVERNMENT ORGANISATION VERY MUCH AS IT IS AND IS LOOKING FORWARD TO WORKING WITH THE CIVIL SERVICE, THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DAVID FORD, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS ON HIS RETURN FROM LONDON WHERE HE HAD LONG MEETINGS WITH MR PATTEN, SIR DAVID SAID THEY DISCUSSED ALL THE CURRENT ISSUES.

THESE INCLUDED POLITICAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES, THE PRIORITIES AS TO WHERE THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD BE GOING IN THE NEXT FEW YEARS IN TERMS OF SOCIAL POLICY AND INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENT.

"MR PATTEN HAS COLLECTED A LOT OF INFORMATION. OBVIOUSLY HE'S BEEN READING A GREAT DEAL; HE'S BEEN TALKING TO A LOT OF PEOPLE. BUT HE VERY MUCH WANTS TO KEEP AN OPEN MIND ON ALL THOSE SUBJECTS AND WHEN HE COMES HERE HE WANTS TO CONTINUE HIS CONVERSATION, CONTINUE HIS READING AND GATHERING INFORMATION BEFORE HE MAKES UP HIS MIND ON ANY OF THE KEY ISSUES AHEAD," SIR DAVID SAID.

THE CHIEF SECRETARY SAID HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH MR PATTEN ALSO INCLUDED PRACTICAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE GOVERNOR-DESIGNATE'S ARRIVAL IN HONG KONG AND HIS PROGRAMME FOR HIS FIRST FEW MONTHS.

"WE TALKED ABOUT HIS WORKING STYLE AND OUR WORKING STYLE; WHAT SORT OF MEETINGS HE LIKES TO HAVE AND STAFFING ARRANGEMENTS. AND IN CONNECTION WITH THAT, MR PATTEN MADE IT CLEAR THAT HE DOES NOT INTEND TO BRING ANY MORE STAFF OTHER THAN THE TWO PERSONAL ADVISERS HE'S BRINGING WITH HIM, WHO AS YOU KNOW WILL JOIN THE GOVERNMENT HOUSE STAFF AND BE PART OF THE TEAM," HE SAID.

SIR DAVID SAID HE WAS SADDENED BY THE NEWS OF THE DEATH OF MR NG MING-YUM AND SENT HIS CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILY.

"STEPHEN NG WAS A VERY FINE YOUNG POLITICIAN; ONE OF THE NEW BREED WHO WAS MAKING SUCH A GREAT CONTRIBUTION TO HONG KONG AND IT IS VERY SAD THAT HE SHOULD DIE AT SUCH A YOUNG AGE," HE SAID.

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GOVERNOR SADDENED BY NG MING-YUM'S DEATH  
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THE GOVERNOR, LORD WILSON OF TILLYORN, TODAY (MONDAY) SAID HE HAD HEARD OF THE NEWS OF THE DEATH OF LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEMBER NG MING-YUM WITH GREAT SADNESS.

HE EXPRESSED HIS CONDOLENCES TO MR NG'S FAMILY AND PRAISED HIS RECORD OF PUBLIC SERVICE.

"I WAS GREATLY SADDENED TO HEAR OF MR NG MING-YUM'S DEATH EARLIER TODAY. THIS IS A GREAT TRAGEDY FOR HIS FAMILY AND THEY HAVE MY DEEPEST SYMPATHY."

"IT IS ALSO A GREAT LOSS FOR THE COMMUNITY. DESPITE HIS YOUTH, MR NG MADE A MAJOR CONTRIBUTION TO PUBLIC AFFAIRS BOTH IN TUEN MUN AND IN THE TERRITORY AS A WHOLE. HE WILL BE MISSED BY HIS MANY FRIENDS AND ADMIRERS."

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BY-ELECTIONS TO FILL STEPHEN NG'S SEATS  
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IN RESPONSE TO PRESS ENQUIRIES, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID BY-ELECTIONS FOR THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, REGIONAL COUNCIL AND DISTRICT BOARD SEATS HELD BY THE LATE MR STEPHEN NG MING-YUM WOULD BE HELD WITHIN THE NEXT TWO MONTHS.

OFFICIALS ARE DRAWING UP A TIMETABLE THAT ALLOWS SUFFICIENT TIME FOR NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONEERING FOR EACH SEAT TO BE CONTESTED ON DIFFERENT DATES.

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FLEXIBLE APPROACH IN IMPLEMENTING HOTEL LAW  
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THE GOVERNMENT WILL ADOPT A PRACTICAL AND FLEXIBLE APPROACH IN IMPLEMENTING THE HOTEL AND GUESTHOUSE ACCOMMODATION ORDINANCE TO HELP THE HOTEL INDUSTRY TO COMPLY WITH THE LICENSING REQUIREMENTS, THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS, MR MICHAEL SUEN, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

ADDRESSING A LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE TUNG WAH GROUP OF HOSPITALS' CHAIRMEN FELLOWSHIP ASSOCIATION, MR SUEN SAID THIS SHOULD HELP DISPEL ANY APPREHENSIONS THAT MEMBERS OF THE INDUSTRY MIGHT HAVE ABOUT THE ORDINANCE.

/HE SAID .....

HE SAID SOME MEMBERS WERE WORRIED THAT THE HOTEL INDUSTRY WOULD ENCOUNTER DIFFICULTIES IF THE GOVERNMENT WERE TO RIGIDLY ENFORCE THE LICENSING REQUIREMENTS.

THE OFFICE OF THE LICENSING AUTHORITY (OLA) HAD ALREADY WRITTEN TO ALL HOTELS LAST MONTH, GIVING A COMPREHENSIVE EXPLANATION ON HOW THE ORDINANCE WOULD ACTUALLY BE IMPLEMENTED, MR SUEN SAID.

HE SAID TWO MAIN FACTORS WOULD BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT WHEN ENFORCING THE ORDINANCE.

"ONE IS THE QUESTION OF TIMING. THE GOVERNMENT APPRECIATES THAT HOTELS MAY NOT ALWAYS BE ABLE TO COMPLETE THE REQUIRED IMPROVEMENT WORKS WITHIN THE NORMAL TWO-YEAR EXEMPTION PERIOD.

"SOMETIMES THE IMPROVEMENT WORKS NEED TO FIT IN WITH THE HOTEL'S ANNUAL MAINTENANCE PERIOD.

"THEREFORE, THE OLA IS WILLING TO DISCUSS WITH HOTEL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT TO WORK OUT A REASONABLE WORK SCHEDULE AND EXEMPTION PERIOD IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF INDIVIDUAL HOTELS," MR SUEN SAID.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE OLA NOTICED THAT SOME HOTEL PREMISES WERE COMPARATIVELY OLD AND MIGHT NOT MEET THE PRESENT FIRE PREVENTION AND STRUCTURAL SAFETY STANDARDS, HE SAID.

HOWEVER, THE OLA WAS PREPARED TO EXPLORE OTHER POSSIBLE OPTIONS, SUCH AS USING A SIMILAR FIRE PREVENTION SYSTEM OR MATERIALS, HE SAID.

NOTING THAT THE OLA WOULD KEEP IN TOUCH WITH PEOPLE IN THE TRADE, MR SUEN APPEALED FOR FULL CO-OPERATION FROM THE HOTEL AND GUESTHOUSE INDUSTRY TO ENSURE THE SMOOTH IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ORDINANCE FOR THE SAKE OF PROTECTING THE LIFE AND PROPERTY OF THEIR GUESTS AND STAFF.

"THIS WILL HELP ENHANCE HONG KONG'S GOOD REPUTATION IN THE INTERNATIONAL TOURISM INDUSTRY," HE ADDED.

THE ORDINANCE WAS PASSED IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL IN MAY LAST YEAR.

HE SAID ONE OF THE OBJECTIVES WAS TO ENSURE THAT HOTELS AND SIMILAR ESTABLISHMENTS COMPLY WITH THE REQUIRED RELEVANT FIRE PREVENTION AND BUILDING STRUCTURAL SAFETY STANDARDS.

"ANOTHER OBJECTIVE IS TO ENABLE THE GOVERNMENT TO KEEP A REGISTER OF ALL SUCH ACCOMMODATIONS," HE ADDED.

THE SCOPE OF THE ORDINANCE COVERS GUESTHOUSES, HOTELS, APARTMENTS, MOTELS AND HOLIDAY FLATS.

UNDER THE ORDINANCE, ALL HOTELS, GUESTHOUSES AND SIMILAR ACCOMMODATIONS MUST OBTAIN A CERTIFICATE OF EXEMPTION FROM THE OLA FOR THEIR BUSINESS. SO FAR, SOME 2,000 CERTIFICATES HAVE BEEN ISSUED.

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THOSE ESTABLISHMENTS ISSUED WITH THE CERTIFICATE CAN BE EXEMPTED FROM LICENSING TEMPORARILY UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

THE LICENSING SCHEME WILL BE CARRIED OUT IN STAGES WITH GUESTHOUSES AND HOTELS FOR TOURISTS COMING UNDER THE FIRST PHASE.

THEY ARE GIVEN, IN PRINCIPLE, A TWO-YEAR EXEMPTION PERIOD TO ENABLE THEM TO UPGRADE THEIR FIRE PREVENTION INSTALLATIONS TO MEET THE LICENSING REQUIREMENTS.

UNDER NORMAL CIRCUMSTANCES, THE OLA WILL, UPON THE EXPIRY OF THE EXEMPTION PERIOD IN SEPTEMBER 1993, REQUIRE THESE ESTABLISHMENTS TO COMPLY WITH THE FIRE PREVENTION AND STRUCTURAL SAFETY STANDARDS AS LAID DOWN IN THE ORDINANCE, MR SUEN SAID.

"HOWEVER, EXTENSION OF THE EXEMPTION PERIOD OR FLEXIBLE IMPLEMENTATION OF CERTAIN NEWLY INTRODUCED SAFETY REQUIREMENTS MAY BE CONSIDERED FOR INDIVIDUAL CASES, ESPECIALLY IN CONNECTION WITH HOTELS," HE ADDED.

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TIME ADJUSTMENT FOR ONE SECOND DELAY

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AT 8 AM ON JULY 1, THE USUAL SIX-PIP TIME SIGNAL FROM THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY WILL NOT BE BROADCAST BY RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG.

IT WILL RESUME AT 8.30 AM OR 9 AM DEPENDING ON THE RADIO CHANNEL.

THIS IS TO ENABLE AN ADJUSTMENT TO BE APPLIED WHICH WILL RESULT IN A DELAY OF ONE SECOND TO THE HONG KONG STANDARD TIME.

THIS ADJUSTMENT ARISES FROM THE FACT THAT THE TIME SCALE NOW IN USE, KNOWN AS THE CO-ORDINATED UNIVERSAL TIME (UTC), IS BASED ON THE ATOMIC TIME SCALE WHICH PROVIDES A MORE PRECISE AND UNIFORM SECOND THAN THAT DERIVED BY ASTRONOMICAL MEANS.

IT HAS BEEN INTERNATIONALLY AGREED THAT AN ADJUSTMENT OF ONE SECOND SHOULD BE APPLIED FROM TIME TO TIME SO THAT THE CO-ORDINATED UNIVERSAL TIME WILL NOT DIFFER FROM THE ASTRONOMICAL TIME BY MORE THAN NINE-TENTHS OF A SECOND.

THE LAST ADJUSTMENT WAS MADE ON JANUARY 1, 1991.

THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY OPERATES A HIGH PRECISION ATOMIC CLOCK GIVING CO-ORDINATED UNIVERSAL TIME. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO WISH TO CARRY OUT TIME CHECKS CAN EITHER LISTEN TO THE TIME SIGNAL BROADCAST BY RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG OR CALL THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY ON TEL 732 9472.

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EXHIBITION TO MARK INTERNATIONAL ANTI-DRUG DAY

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A LARGE-SCALE EXHIBITION TO MARK THE ANNUAL "INTERNATIONAL DAY AGAINST DRUG ABUSE AND ILLICIT TRAFFICKING" WILL BE HELD AT METROPLAZA, KWAI FONG, FROM FRIDAY (JUNE 26).

THE SECRETARY FOR SECURITY, MR ALISTAIR ASPREY, WILL OFFICIATE AT A CEREMONY TO COMMEMORATE THE INTERNATIONAL EVENT DECLARED BY THE UNITED NATIONS, AND TO LAUNCH A BUS PARADE AT NOON.

THE THREE-DAY EXHIBITION IS ORGANISED BY THE ACTION COMMITTEE AGAINST NARCOTICS IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE POLICE, CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, THE SOCIETY FOR THE AID AND REHABILITATION OF DRUG ABUSERS AND PS 33, A COUNSELLING CENTRE FOR PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCE ABUSERS.

ON DISPLAY WILL BE A WIDE RANGE OF PANELS INTRODUCING HONG KONG'S OVERALL ANTI-DRUG WORK AND THE ROLES PLAYED BY THE PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS.

THE POLICE AND CUSTOMS WILL ALSO PUT UP DISPLAYS SHOWING MAJOR DRUG TRAFFICKING AND MANUFACTURING CASES SMASHED IN THE PAST FEW YEARS.

A VIDEO WALL WILL BE SET UP TO GIVE AUDIENCE, PARTICULARLY YOUNGSTERS, AN INSIGHT INTO THE HARMFUL EFFECTS OF AUBSING PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES.

ALSO ON DISPLAY WILL BE SEIZED DRUGS, DRUG-SMOKING PARAPHERNALIA AND DRUG CONCEALMENT DEVICES FROM BOTH THE POLICE AND CUSTOMS.

THE EXHIBITION WILL BE OPEN FROM NOON TO 6 PM ON FRIDAY (JUNE 26) AND BETWEEN 10 AM AND 6 PM ON SATURDAY (JUNE 27) AND SUNDAY (JUNE 28).

PUBLICITY MATERIALS, INCLUDING PAPER CLIPS AND BALLOONS, WILL BE DISTRIBUTED TO VISITORS ON A FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED BASIS.

FOUR DOUBLE DECKERS, TWO OF WHICH SPONSORED BY THE CHINA MOTOR BUS COMPANY LIMITED, WILL JOIN THE BUS PARADE ON FRIDAY AFTERNOON. THEY WILL TOUR ABOUT 20 LOCATIONS THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY AND DISTRIBUTE PUBLICITY MATERIALS TO THE PUBLIC.

MORE THAN 50 VOLUNTEERS, INCLUDING STUDENTS FROM A NUMBER OF SECONDARY SCHOOLS, WILL PARTICIPATE.

/THREE LOCAL .....

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THREE LOCAL POP SINGERS WILL HELP DISSEMINATE ANTI-DRUG MESSAGE AT A MINI-CONCERT AT 2 PM ON SATURDAY (JUNE 27) AND SUNDAY (JUNE 28) ON THE EXHIBITION SITE.

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ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

THE SECRETARY FOR SECURITY, MR ALISTAIR ASPREY, WILL OFFICIATE AT A CEREMONY TO COMMEMORATE THE EVENT AT THE CRYSTAL ATRIUM OF METROPLAZA, KWAI FONG, AT NOON ON FRIDAY (JUNE 26).

PRESS COVERAGE IS INVITED.

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FRESH WATER CUT IN SOUTHERN DISTRICT

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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO SOME PREMISES IN THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 10 PM ON WEDNESDAY (JUNE 24) TO 2 PM THE FOLLOWING DAY TO FACILITATE WATERMAINS CONNECTION WORK.

ALL PREMISES IN THE FOLLOWING AREA WILL BE AFFECTED:

- \* ALONG MOUNT DAVIS ROAD FROM HOUSE NO. 23 TO ITS JUNCTION WITH POK FU LAM ROAD, INCLUDING HO TUNG SHAN SQUATTER AREA;
- \* AT BISNEY ROAD, CONSORT RISE AND CROWN TERRACE;
- \* AT SASSOON ROAD, INCLUDING THE SCHOOL PREMISES OF THE FACULTY OF MEDICINE, THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG AND ITS STUDENT UNION COMPLEX, THE NORTHCOTE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND TELEGRAPH BAY VILLAGE;
- \* AT A SECTION OF POK FU LAM ROAD BETWEEN POK FU LAM RESERVOIR ROAD AND VICTORIA ROAD, INCLUDING POK FU LAM VILLAGE, POK FU LAM THA, CHI FU FA YUEN, POKFULAM GARDENS, YAR CHEE VILLAS AND UPPER BAGUIO VILLA;
- \* POK FU LAM DIVISIONAL FIRE STATION AND AMBULANCE DEPOT; AND
- \* WAH HING HOUSE, WAH SANG HOUSE, WAH TAI HOUSE AND WAH CHEUNG HOUSE IN WAH FU ESTATE.

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WATER STORAGE FIGURE

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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 74.3 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OF 453.332 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVIORS CONTAINED 159.903 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 27.3 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND  
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS

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	\$ MILLION
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OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,288
REVERSAL OF LAF	-300
BALANCE AFTER REVERSAL OF LAF	988
NET INJECTION/WITHDRAWAL TODAY	NIL
EFFECT OF LAF TODAY	NIL
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	988

LAF RATE 2.50 BID/4.50 OFFER TWI 111.0 \*+0.0\* 22.6.92

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

EF BILLS		HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS				
TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	3.00 PCT	17 MONTHS	2311	6.25	102.40	4.51
1 MONTH	2.87 PCT	20 MONTHS	2402	5.50	101.08	4.87
3 MONTHS	2.88 PCT	23 MONTHS	2405	5.50	100.78	5.13
6 MONTHS	3.23 PCT					
12 MONTHS	3.97 PCT					
TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 5,011 MN						
CLOSED 22 JUNE 1992						

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